Hamilton Fish Criticized In Legion Vote

Misuse of Frank Charge Made In Resolution

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By the Associated Press

Omaha, Sept. 22.—The twenty-fifth annual American Legion convention adopted a resolution today charging that Republican Representative Hamilton Fish of New York "with certain other isolationist members of Congress" permitted use of the congressional frank by George Sylvester Viereck and the America First Comm ttee in disseminating propaganda "inimical to the United States."

Naming of Fish in the resolution drew strong objection from Ellidor Libonati, Chicago attorney and Illinois Republican leader, who urged the convention to adopt a resolution not mentioning Fish.

Such a resolution, Libonati said, was passed at the last convention in Kansas City. Libonati's motion to eliminate the name of Fish, whom he described as "a good legionnaire," lost by voice vote. The report of the Americanism Committee, which contained the resolution, was adopted.

The resolution charged that "it has been proved by documentary evidence" that on April 14th of this year a franked envelope of Fish was mailed from San Diego, Calif.,

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to persons on the mailing list of C. Leon de Aryan."

The resolution identified de Aryan as editor of The Broom, and declared he was under indictment for sedition but now was out on bail.

The envelope, added the resolution, contained a reprint of remarks by Fish on proposed amendments to the alien and sedition act of the United States.

These amendments, the resolution declared, "would make it impossible for the United States Government to obtain conviction against certain persons now indicted for sedition and would cripple the Department of Justice in its efforts to convict enemies of the United States."

Congress Asked to Act

The resolution called upon members of Congress to take action against mis-use of the frank, and directed the Legion commander to ask the Attorney General of the United States to take steps "to forever put to an end the misuse of the franking privilege by members of Congress."

Viereck, an alleged pro-German propagandist, was sentenced last month to serve one to five years for violation of the foreign agents registration act.

Earlier, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a speech, pledged the A. F. L.'s full resources "to prevent a single moment's interruption in our production task." He asserted that Legion spokesmen "have at times been guilty of rash and unreasonable statements" with respect to organized labor's war effort.

The AFL leader was followed on the stand by Legion National Commander Roane Waring of Memphis who declared that "the overwhelming majority of organized labor . . . are as fine American citizens as exist."

"But there is a small minority," he went on, "a very small minority, but a dengerous minority of highjackers and racketeers who are seeking to crush organized labor and the American Legion will not stand for that."

Green referred to "a terrible beating" he said labor was taking in public opinion because of isolated strikes, and defended his own AFL workers of whom he said 99.9 per cent "religiously kept" the no-strike pledge made to President Roosevelt.

"The no-strike record of American workers during this war is better than that of labor in any other free country in the world," he said.

"Labor is suffering under no illusion despite recent victories in Sicily, Italy and in the Pacific. We have a hard task to perform. We are approaching the real test.

"Labor is ready to work and to fight harder and to provide the soldiers with all the things they need to defeat the enemy."

"There are more than two million union members now serving in the armed forces of our country," he declared. "The great army of workers whose duty it is to serve at home on the production front are backing them up to the limit.

Oscar W. Lamp, Los Angeles, Calif., was elected Chef de Chemin de Fer of the Forty and Eight, play and honor society of the legion, today.

Others elected included Charles W. Ardery, Arlington, Va., correspondant national.